

**Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development****Grants to Named Recipients (AS 37.05.316)****Grant Recipient: Association of Village Council Presidents****Federal Tax ID: 92-0064285****Project Title:****Project Type: Other**

# Association of Village Council Presidents - Multi-Purpose Community Facility Projects

**State Funding Requested: \$10,000,000****House District: Statewide (1-40)**

One-Time Need

**Brief Project Description:**

Construction and improvements of community multi-purpose buildings.

**Funding Plan:**

Total Project Cost:	\$10,000,000
Funding Already Secured:	(\$0)
FY2023 State Funding Request:	<u>(\$10,000,000)</u>
Project Deficit:	\$0

**Detailed Project Description and Justification:**

The Association of Village Council Presidents (AVCP) on behalf of its 56 Member Tribes submits a request for six (6) community multi-purpose buildings for communities within the AVCP region. The 56 Member Tribes of the AVCP region reside in 48 remote village communities. All of our communities have many challenges including access to basic services. This reality was exacerbated in the past few years by the COVID-19 pandemic and highlighted the critical need for multi-purpose community space sufficient to provide basic services during a public health crisis. AVCP rents space from our Member Tribes to operate job centers in 30 villages throughout the region. These job centers provide the gamut of workforce development services from comprehensive job-database access, training opportunities, job readiness, higher education scholarships, youth counseling, GED tutoring, cash assistance case management and much more. In over half of our village locations, the job center space is limited to a small office as there is simply no other community space available to rent. This makes it difficult to engage in private counseling sessions while keeping open office hours, and the spaces are not big enough to handle multiple clients at once. During the pandemic, these small office spaces were unable to provide protections sufficient to offer basic services. In addition, AVCP operates Headstart programs in eleven village locations, but in six of those locations, AVCP cannot operate the preferred center-based program because the communities do not have adequate space available to rent. When the COVID-19 pandemic hit, our home-based Headstart programs were unable to continue many basic services having no central location to operate from. A center-based program would allow for the continuation of some essential services like meals, health screenings, and small-group activities. AVCP is requesting funds to construct a community center in these six (6) communities to house a job center with adequate space to operate a robust program to include training programs, GED classes, and college readiness counseling, as well as a center-based Headstart and Child Care program. As part of both our Headstart program and our Child Care program, AVCP partners with our regional health partners to provide immunizations and regular well-child exams for its students. These multi-use community facilities would include space for our health care partners to provide these necessary health screenings and well-child services. This vital community space would allow for the continuation of basic services into the future in the event of new

public health crises.

**Project Timeline:**

FY23-27

**Entity Responsible for the Ongoing Operation and Maintenance of this Project:**

Association of Village Council Presidents

**Grant Recipient Contact Information:**

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Has this project been through a public review process at the local level and is it a community priority? ☐ Yes ☒ No